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Tourist Held By Reds for Taking Photo

Missing Men Seen,
State Dept. Reveals

WASHINGTON, Oct. 6 (UPI)

The Department of State said today it has been informed that one of two American tourists missing in the Soviet Union since August is being held for taking a photograph in that country.

In spite of repeated inquiries,

Soviet officials have been silent about the two men—Harvey C. Bennett, of Bath, Me., and Mark Kaminsky, of Jefferson Township, Mich., who was to have begun teaching at Purdue University this autumn.

The State Department said another American tourist has reported that he saw Mr. Kaminsky on Aug. 25 at the Soviet border control point in the Soviet intourist travel agency hotel at Uzhgorod, at the border of Czechoslovakia. The State Department said the tourist quoted him as saying he "was under detention for having taken a photograph."

Talked to Them

The State Department said still another American tourist

has reported that he talked with both men at a hotel at Kiev on Aug. 18.

State Department officials said Mr. Kaminsky was a guide at the American exhibit at the 1959 Moscow Fair and that he speaks Russian fluently. They said Mr. Bennett also speaks Russian.

The last direct word from the two men was in the form of a postcard which Mrs. Bennett received from her husband on Sept. 6. The card was dated Aug. 19 and was postmarked "Vinnitsa," a Soviet town near the Czechoslovak border.

Had Car Trouble

Mr. Bennett wrote on the card that he and Mr. Kaminsky

had had automobile trouble but planned to leave the Soviet Union in about six days at Chop, a point where the Soviet, Hungarian and Czechoslovak borders meet. Chop is twenty miles south of Uzhgorod. The State Department twice tried to get information from the Intourist Agency. On Sept. 15, Intourist said the men were scheduled to leave the Soviet Union at Uzhgorod on Aug. 29 but had not passed the check point there and apparently still were in the Soviet Union.

On Sept. 20, Intourist said no further information was available but that the American Embassy at Moscow would be informed promptly "if any becomes available."

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